



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on August 12, 2014, at Central Maine Community College, Auburn, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Peter Geiger; Vice Chair Martha Harris; Nancy Perkins; Steven Pound; Martha Harris; Jana Lapoint; Heidi Sampson; William Beardsley; Ande Smith; Alyssa Wardwell; and Gwendolyn Viles.

Also present were: Commissioner Jim Rier; Scott Brown, Director of School Facilities; Anita Bernhardt, Coordinator for Standards and Instruction; Harry Osgood, Project Consultant, Maine Department of Education; Jaci Holmes, Federal State Legislative Liaison; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Peter Geiger called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

STUDENT TRANSFER APPEALS:

MOVED by Ande Smith, seconded by Martha Harris, and voted six in favor with three members opposed (William Beardsley, Nancy Perkins and Heidi Sampson) to uphold the Commissioner's ruling for the student transfer to MSAD #1, Presque Isle. Motion carries and the transfer is denied.

RECOGNITION AWARDS:

Chair, Peter Geiger presented recognition awards to Nancy Perkins (Chair, 2013 – 2014) and Steven Pound (Chair, 2012 – 2013) for their years of service to the State Board of Education.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by Chair, Peter Geiger: The Vision of the State Board is to prepare Maine public school graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to be college, career, citizenship and life ready.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by William Beardsley, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the June 11, 2014 minutes as written.

CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF THE TEAM MEMBERS TO THE REVIEW OF THE UNITY COLLEGE
APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING AUTHORITY

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the list of potential team members to conduct a review of the Unity College

application for additional degree-granting authority and that Dr. Kathy Yardley, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Maine at Farmington, be designated as the team chair.

APPROVAL OF THE REVIEW TEAM FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE (USM) SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STATE PROGRAM APPROVAL VISIT

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the list of potential State team members for the University of Southern Maine state program approval visit scheduled for October 26 - 29, 2014 and that Dr. Lynne Coy-Ogan, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Husson University be designated the state team chair.

APPROVAL OF THE TEAM MEMBERS FOR THE REVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the list of potential State team members for the University of Maine, College of Education and Human Development state program approval visit scheduled for November 16 - 18, 2014 and that Dr. Kathy Yardley, Associate Provost and Dean of the College of Education, University of Maine at Farmington be designated the state team chair.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM SITE APPROVAL SANFORD SCHOOL DEPARTMENT – FOR A NEW SANFORD HIGH SCHOOL AND REGIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER

STATEMENT OF FACT: Superintendent David Theoharides requests that the State Board of Education approve a site in Sanford, Maine for a new Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center. The facility will replace the existing school.

The Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center scored second highest out of 71 applications on the 2010-2011 final priority list which was based on overall need as defined in Chapter 61 of the State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

A thorough evaluation of the existing school site entitled Existing Sanford High School Site Expansion Feasibility Study was completed in June of 2013 by DeLuca – Hoffman Associates, Inc. and concluded that “this site is not suitable for the expanded or replacement of the High School with Vocational Education Programs.”

Sebago Technics, a civil engineering firm, was hired to do a site search for an appropriate site for the proposed school in Sanford. An exhaustive search ensued starting with 118 initial site queries, finally narrowed to 3 sites and ultimately to 1 site which is comprised of adjoining properties owned by Townhouse Properties, Great Works Realty, L.L.C. and Sanford-Springvale Mousam Way Land Trust. After finding the recommended site Sebago Technics completed the Site Application required by the State Board of Education.

The Townhouse and Great Works properties have been appraised by two licensed appraisers and the combined certified appraisals fell within the 25% variance allowed by Chapter 61 of the State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects. The city of Sanford has signed options to acquire the three properties.

Townhouse Properties owns one of the three properties and the land is made up of six lots equaling 50.1 acres. The purchase price for the Townhouse lots will be \$425,700.

Great Works Realty, L.L.C. (Great Works Partnership) owns the second piece of the proposed site and its property is made up of two lots equaling 77.2 acres. The purchase price for the Great Works lots will be \$271,220.

The Sanford-Springvale Mousam Way Land Trust owns the third piece of property which would make up the final portion of the proposed site. The Land Trust owns land abutting the Great Works property and is in agreement to sell approximately 5 acres of high value land which would be used for an access road from the school site and for a softball field. The purchase price for the Sanford-Springvale Mousam Way Land Trust property will be paid by conveying to the Land Trust an easement of approximately 7 acres of high value wetland along with certain access to the wetlands.

The State's share of this proposed purchase of the site, according to Chapter 61 will be 49 acres at the average appraised value per acre of \$1,846, for a state total of \$90,454.

The completed Site Application is on file with the Department of Education and all the appropriate state agencies have been involved and options to purchase have been agreed upon.

PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project: Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center

Superintendent: David Theoharides

Architect: Lance Whitehead of Lavallee - Brensinger Architects

Civil Engineers: Kylie Mason - Sebago Technics

Total Number of Acres: 132.3 ± (including 5 ± acres from the Sanford-Springvale Mousam Way Land Trust)

Total Number of Acres Eligible for State Support: 49

Total Purchase Cost: \$696,920

Average Appraised Value: \$234,987

Amount Eligible for State Support: \$90,454

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On August 4, 2014, the Construction Committee voted to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to the Sanford School Department for construction of a new Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center in Sanford, Maine.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant site approval to the Sanford School Department for the construction of a new Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center in Sanford, Maine under the provisions of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Ande Smith, and unanimously voted by those present to approve grant site approval to the Sanford School Department for the construction of a new Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center in Sanford, Maine under the provisions of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

REQUEST FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR PROPOSING A JOINT BASIC SCHOOL APPROVAL RULE FOR THE PUBLIC PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS TO REFLECT QUALITY STANDARDS OF PROGRAM PRACTICE

BACKGROUND: The State Board is responsible for Joint rules on Basic School Approval with the Maine Department of Education. The Department of Education convened a workgroup of early childhood professionals in 2007 to develop recommended quality standards of program practice after a careful review of current research at that time. These Recommended Quality Standards of Program Practice have been posted on the Department's Public Preschool web page since that time. Seven years have passed and there has been significant focus and research across the country on the importance of quality early childhood experiences on young children's developing brains and the sustained positive outcomes as these children enter the k-12 system. The Department reconvened a representative grouping of early childhood professionals, comparable to the prior workgroup, to review the Recommended Standards in their current form and to make recommendations for further refinement based on the newest research. The Department has drafted proposed regulations that would serve as the basic elements of public preschool programs in order to be an approved program for receipt of Essential Programs and Services subsidy. These regulations would ensure a consistent standard throughout the state.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the State Board of Education consider initiating rulemaking to make the proposed amendments above to Chapter 124 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act.

MOVED by Nancy Perkins, seconded by Martha Harris, and voted six in favor with three members opposed (William Beardsley, Heidi Sampson and Ande Smith) approve initiating rulemaking to make the proposed amendments above to Chapter 124 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedures Act. Motion Carries

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee (Martha Harris):

The Construction Committee met on August 4, 2014. Present were Martha Harris, Chair of the Committee; Peter Geiger; Ande Smith (Board) Scott Brown, Ann Pinnette, and Stephanie Clark from the Department of Education.

The minutes of the June 27, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

Sanford Site Approval: Scott Brown, Director of School Facilities; David Theoharides, Sanford Superintendent; Kylie Mason, Sebago Technics Engineers presented the process of site selection and the final site presented to the Committee. Sanford had other people at the meeting, including the Sanford Town Manager.

Many questions were asked by Committee Members. At the conclusion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the State Board of Education grant site approval to the Sanford School Department for the construction of a new Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center in Sanford, Maine pursuant to Chapter 61.

The Commissioner has agreed to allow us to reopen Chapter 61 to strengthen it and ultimately have Chapter 60 eliminated. Staff will provide a draft to the committee by August 26, 2014 in anticipation of full discussion at the next committee meeting on September 2, 2014 and a presentation to the full Board on September 10, 2014 at Mt. Blue High School.

The next Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2014. The meeting will be in room 541 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Certification and Higher Education (Nancy Perkins):

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held an Informational Conference Call meeting on Monday, July 28, 2014, originated at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following participated: Chair Nancy Perkins; Jana Lapoint; William Beardsley; and Nichi Farnham (Board Members); Mark Cyr, Certification Coordinator; (Department of Education); and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate

Mark Cyr gave an update on the certification software for online application and renewal process issues.

The Committee talked about the mentoring survey and will meet with the Mentoring Materials Stakeholder Group on Wednesday, August 13. The group will be looking at the survey results and how they should proceed with their next steps. They received over 100 responses to the survey.

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 AM.

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2014. The meeting will be in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

Career and Technical Education (Steven Pound):

The Career and Technical Education Committee (CTE) held a meeting on Friday, June 27, 2014, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Peter Geiger; Committee Chair Steven Pound by phone (Board Members); Margaret Harvey; Donna Tiner; and Travis Wood (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education. The Committee also met on July 28, 2014, at the Department of Education with the same people in attendance except for Travis Wood. Steve reported on both meetings as the State Board did not hold a regular monthly meeting in July 2014.

Meg Harvey and Donna Tiner updated the Committee on the following:

- Perkins - Annual Reports are due June 30th and 30% are in. There are 27 secondary grants and all but 4 are in.
- Cosmetology – Want to open up a program to secondary schools. The law is currently being rewritten.
- Certification and CTE – New test from Certification, Praxis II and Industry Credentials by program.
- Assessment Selection Process - A new person has taken over, Travis Wood, and he gave an update on the process.
- Common Calendar – The regional school calendar for CTE center/region and its sending schools was reviewed with the committee. No more than 5 instructional days may be dissimilar among the center/region and its sending schools.
- Briggs Account – The account is not earning as much interest as it previously did but has a balance of \$114,000.00.
- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) which is replacing the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 are looking at where to allocate Perkins funds in the future.
- Dwight Littlefield has left the Department and gone back to JMG (Jobs for Maine Graduates). They will be looking to fill Dwight's position along with a secretarial position in the CTE Office.
- Maine Administrators for Career and Technical Education (MACTEE) held a Conference on July 30 to August 1.
- Seeds of Peace - Steve distributed photos from the Seeds of Peace Program.

The next CTE Committee meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2014. The meeting will be in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Peter Geiger

- On July 14 – 16, he attended the Mass Customization Learning Summit involving people from 11 states. Take away:
 - Ultimately it is about a meaningful diploma – whether proficiency based or MCL, districts are working together to address the needs of all learners.
 - Terminology can be important: Learner = Student and Learning Facilitator = Teacher. If you use the words consistently they have deeper meaning and become part of the culture.
 - MCL believe in no grades!! PF have proficiency within grades.
 - Everyone understands the value of rigor in standards.
 - Technology plays a huge part in allowing students to grow on their own but with access to LF.
 - Great opportunity to ask educators about MLR and CC. Very supportive. Only knock on CC was that it was grade centered but the standards themselves were fine.

There were attendees from California, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, South Dakota, Ohio and Maine. This conference rotates among states. Next year it will be held July 12 – 14 in Bedford, PA.

- He prepared an op ed that appeared in the July 27th Maine Sunday Telegram. This was in response to a letter I received from a Lewiston citizen concerned about standards and other aspects of education. I believe that there is a great deal of misinformation being bantered about and decided I could answer the questions raised but to a wider audience. This has all been shared with the board.
- Z105.5 Radio – this is a very local (Lewiston/Auburn) radio station. I had done an interview in June regarding my mission trips to Haiti and liked how well prepared they were. Martha Harris and I did a piece on education Monday, August 11th. You can listen to it by going to www.Z105.5.com.
- On July 30, he and Nancy helped to judge the Maine Teacher of the Year orals and last week the portfolios. Educate Maine has put the program together with 16 County TOYs who vie for the 2015 MTOY honor. There are 8 teachers in contention at this point. There has been an effort to make the process easier for nominations to be made and involving far more educators and the public than any time before. SBE is a sponsor of MTOY. He will arrange for Dolly Sullivan of Educate Maine to present to the Board in September.
- I was made aware of a *High-Priority Rural Education Issues Symposium* sponsored by Regional Education Laboratory and the Northeast Rural Districts Research Alliance. This takes place at Granite State College on October 30th. I have asked Nancy Perkins to attend and report out findings.
- Much of the past month he has been devoted to working on the SBE Retreat. Thanks to Mary as well as Scott Knapp/ Barbara Owen of CMCC for their warm hospitality. Kudos also to Nancy Perkins, Martha Harris and Steve Pound for work on setting this up and coordinating efforts with NASBE. Thanks also to Bill Beardsley for being part of the trifecta who prepared the NASBE grant.

Vice Chair, Martha Harris

- She attended the Mass Customized Learning Summit on July 16.
- She attended the first meeting of the Commission to Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula on July 25, 2014. There is a lot of work to be done including getting information from the field. It appears that they will have numerous meetings in October and November in order to get the report done for the legislature.
- She attended a Leadership Committee meeting on July 25.
- She attended the Construction Committee meeting on August 4.
- One of Martha's duties as Vice Chair of the Board is to identify meeting locations for regular monthly Board meetings. For the remainder of 2014, the Board will meet at the following locations:
 - September 10, 2014 - *Mt. Blue High School, Farmington*
 - October 14, 2014 - *Sebasticook Valley Middle School, Newport*
 - November 12, 2014 - *Monmouth Middle School, Monmouth*
 - December 10, 2014 - *Harriett Beecher Stowe Elementary School, Brunswick*

Note: Nichi Farnham and William Beardsley left the meeting at 2:20 PM

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**Jana Lapoint:**

- She would like to see the Charter School Commission report listed on the agenda under the State Board subcommittee reports.
- Maine Connections Academy has 279 students enrolled. They fully anticipate reaching their maximum of 299 students. They have hired their head of school and set their building up in South Portland at John Roberts Parkway. They have hired half of their staff. All of their teachers need to be from the State of Maine.
- They are reviewing five schools and their final reports are due by September 1, 2014. They are looking at hiring someone to be in charge of the reporting periods under the direction of the Executive Director.
- They have four applications as two of the original six have withdrawn. If all four are approved they will have met their maximum of ten Charter Schools.
- Ande Smith is now the Vice Chair of the Charter School Commission.

Nancy Perkins:

- She attended the Mass Customized Learning Summit on July 16.
- She attended a Leadership Committee meeting on July 25.
- She attended the Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting on July 28.
- She has been spending a lot of time working on the Maine Principals' Association (MPA) grant making sure that as the Board moves forward that they have the correct materials for the December interim report and the final report in June.
- She has been working with Peter on the Retreat agenda.
- She and Peter helped judge the Maine Teacher of the Year orals and last week the portfolios.
- She attended a Recruitment and Selection of Teachers meeting. The Maine Schools for Excellence (MSFE) human capital management system (HCMS) subgroup on educator recruitment and selection is charged with assessing current practice in MSFE schools, identifying research-based and emerging practices in the field, and developing strategies to strengthen MSFE school districts' approaches to improving teacher and principal recruitment and selection so that every student has access to effective and excellent teachers.

Steven Pound:

- On July 21, August 4 and August 5 he attended meetings for the NASBE Grant
- On July 25, he attended the Leadership Committee meeting.
- On June 27 and July 28, he attended the Career and Technical Education Committee meetings.
- He co-convenes a group on the Aging Workforce established by the legislature. In September, he will be going with a group of five to speak with the congressional delegation in Washington, D.C.
- On behalf of Educate Maine he attended a General Electric Foundation conference again this year. The conference combined had 800 to 1,000 people in attendance. There are about 350-400 people in the business side and about 550 people in the Education side. There were some similar speakers for both. Linda Darling Hammond spoke and many others.
- Job Corps is celebrating 50 years.

Heidi Sampson:

- She attended a Construction Committee meeting in June.
- Through her homeschool support group she will be hosting a "Homeschooling through High School" meeting in September. It will be held in Scarborough and it will be all about providing resources

Ande Smith:

- The Charter Commission held a half day retreat following their business meeting on August 5. They are hiring an additional staff member which will be important for the regulatory function that the Charter Commission executes.
- The Commission is down to 4 applications including the Maine Virtual Academy.

Alyssa Wardwell:

- She has been working as a boat inspector at her local lake handing out brochures informing people of invasive plants that can get into the lake, like milfoil and it can ruin the lake for everyone.
- She went to the University of Maine at Orono for an engineering camp that was a week long and you get to see all the engineering opportunities.
- She did a one day college visit at Husson University for a teaching program. It was a college tour but was focused on the teaching aspect.
- She has been working on her AP work and is currently in the college recruiting process contacting college coaches.

Gwendolyn Viles:

- She worked as a swim instructor at Embden Pond and as a lifeguard at Camp Podood.
- She will be going to the University of Maine at Orono on September 22 as she has enrolled in three online college courses this year and is excited to get her college text books.
- She received a rough draft of her school schedule and she has signed up to take three AP classes but can only fit two into her schedule.
- Golf practice has started up again, and this year the girl's team might get to travel to other schools and compete against other girls teams.

BUDGET:

Steve Pound distributed the Board's expenditures and requested all Board members to submit their expense account vouchers to Mary for reimbursement as soon as possible. Last year's budget came out perfect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dick Durost, Executive Director, Maine Principals' Association (MPA): Dick thanked the Board for inviting him to participate on the panel during their retreat. During the school year, often his schedule does not always match up with the Board's schedule particularly when he is on the road. It has been a while since he has watched the State Board in action and he appreciated the opportunity over the past two days to do that. Dick wanted to stress the importance of the grant for MPA, the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) and the State Board. He thinks the money will help keep the program going but he thinks the combination of the three organization amenities will help to draw heightened awareness to the importance of building principals and the amount of support and mentoring that they need. While having a couple of lunches at the retreat, he has got to know some members personally, a little bit better than before, as some members are relatively new to the Board. He especially enjoyed talking with the student Board members. The student panel that was there on Monday, even for him in his 44th year, it was an eye opener. As the executive director of an organization that is undergoing some significant changes in their governing structure, they are going from a Board of Directors of 29 members with very little authority to a Board of Directors with 7 members and a great deal more authority to act on for approximately 850 members across the State. Dick commended the Board for their time and effort over the past two days and for allowing him to be a part of the retreat.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Steven Pound, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the August 12, 2014 State Board of Education meeting at 2:45 PM.